

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1881.

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Price, \$24 PER ANNUM.

VOL. XXXVII No. 5644.

號六十月八年一十八百八千一英

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GORDON STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GORDON, Ltd., 10, Abchurch Lane, E. C. HENRY & CO., 37, Walbrook. E. C. SAMUEL DEAN & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROSNY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

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SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS.—BEAN & BEAN, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Singapore. C. HEINZELN & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, MESSRS A. A. DE MELO & CO. SUCCESSION, CAMPBELL & CO. AMOY, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO. PEKING, HEDON & CO. SHANGHAI, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. YOKOHAMA, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Banks.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30th APRIL, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP.....£3,200,000.

RESERVE FUND.....£200,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue Bergère, PARIS.

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES at:

LONDON, BOULBON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLES, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYONS, CALCUTTA, SHANGHAI, PEKING, NANTES, SHANGHAI, PEKING, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY.

LONDON BANKERS:

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

Messrs C. J. HAMBRO & SON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts, and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking Exchange Business.

E. SCHWEBLIN, Agent, Hongkong.

Hongkong, April 12, 1881.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....£1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

At 3 months' notice 3% per Annum.

" 6 " " 4% " "

" 12 " " 5% " "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which may be learnt on application.

GEO. O. SCOTT, Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Hongkong, September 4, 1879.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....5,000,000 Dollars.

RESERVE FUND.....1,900,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

Chairman—A. McIVER, Esq.

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HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 per cent. " "

" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BUS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Office of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, August 16, 1881.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the Sale of their Goods by Messrs KYNOC & Co., of London.

MAYER & Co., Ho. Hong, August 13, 1881. 13a02

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned is authorized to sell one Firm per Procurement.

REISS & Co., Hongkong, 11th July, 1881. 13a02

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

ABOUT 2,000 lbs. MILLER & RICHARD'S Extra-hard Metal BOURGEOIS TYPE, No. 19, (somewhat worn but in fairly good condition).

Apply to OFFICE OF THIS PAPER.

Hongkong, July 22, 1881.

FOR SALE.

J. & B. LAURENT FRERES' Best COGNAC, No. 1 Gold Capote. Do. Do. No. 1 Silver Capote. ADOLF SEWARD & CO'S CLARETS. CHATEAU BEAUX MOUTON in Quarts. And, LAURENCE in Pints and Quarts. Also, FLOWER & SON'S Bottled ALE.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, August 3, 1881.

JOHN BAZLEY WHITE & BROTHERS.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

Sole Agents for China, HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, June 13, 1881. 13a13

For Sale.

JULES MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.

Quarts.....\$16 per 1 doz. Case.

Pints.....\$17 per 2 doz. "

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, February 2, 1880.

FOR SALE.

A Collection of ENGRAVINGS from PICTURES by LANDSEER, MILNERS, BRITON RIVIERE, HOLMAN HUNT, G. A. STORREY, and Others. An Inspection is invited.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, July 29, 1881.

FOR SALE.

A Valuable LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situated in the Queen's Road Central, consisting of FOUR ROOMS suitable for DWELLING, and THREE ROOMS suitable for OFFICES. Also GODOWN capable of holding about 600 Tons.

The GROUND FLOOR is at present in the occupation of Messrs KELLY & WALSH.

For further Particulars, apply to J. Y. V. VERNON.

or, BRERETON & WOTTON.

Hongkong, July 25, 1881.

FOR SALE.

VALVOLINE CYLINDER OIL.

THIS Oil is a lubricant for the Valves and Cylinders of Steam Engines, and is free from the objections which exist against the use of tallow or vegetable oils.

J. M. STRONG.

Hongkong, June 27, 1881.

To Let.

TO LET.

THE DWELLING HOUSE, No. 6, ALEXANDRA TERRACE.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, August 9, 1881.

GODOWNS-TO LET.

PRAYA EAST AND WANCHAI ROAD.

For Particulars, apply to SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, January 21, 1881.

TO LET.

NO. 2, OLD BAILEY STREET.

Also, No. 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, July 16, 1881.

TO LET.

NO. 4, MORRISON HILL.

Apply to T. G. GLOVER.

No. 7, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, July 28, 1881.

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Half-Yearly MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, on MONDAY, August 29th 1881, at 3.30 p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and a Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1881.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 29th Instant, inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

E. COOKE, Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, August 8, 1881. 2a29

WATSON & Co.

SHIP COMPROMISE.

BALLANTRAE & CO'S PATENT STEEL RIVETS, Hongkong and Whampoa, of the same Quality and Proportions.

Keep on hand and for Sale, well assorted Chinese Stores and Coal of all kinds.

Shipping supplied at the shortest notice with all kinds of Ballast and fresh Provisions at moderate charges.

W. W. WINE, 11th July, 1881. 13a02

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED FOR SALE:—FRESH HOUSEHOLD STORES and GROCERIES from CHOISE & BLACKWELL, J. MOIR & SONS, HUNTLEY & PALMER, &c., &c.

FRENCH JAMS AND ISIGNY BUTTER.

WINE, SPIRITS, &c.

CLARETS—MECO, St. Emilion, Haut Talon, La Rose, Latour, &c.

SHERRIES—SACCONE (celebrated). PORTS—HUNTLEY'S, Old Calcuttated "R."

BURGUNDY, CHAMPAGNE, and HOCK. LIQUEURS—CHATELAIN, MARASCHINO and NOYAL.

SUMMER DRINKS in Great Variety. WHISKY—BULLOCK'S Scotch S.B.H.

KINARAH'S Irish. BRANDIES—COGNAC, EXHAW'S, and HENNESSY'S.

NEW NOVELS (as they appear). ACCOUNTS AND OFFICE BOOKS by the Best Makers.

A Large Stock of FANCY ARTICLES. NEW CABINET PHOTOS.

SILVER SWING and STAND LAMPS (large stock). LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS.

BILLIARD CUES, TIPS, CHALK, &c. NEW SHAPES in MEERSCHAUM and BARIAN PIPES. TOBACCO and POUCHES.

MANILA, PENANG, and BANGKOK CIGARS. ELEPHANT-PLATED GOODS in New Designs.

WHISKY'S REVOLVERS, and all kinds of SPORTING GEAR. LAWN GRASS SEED. AMERICAN FLOWER and VEGETABLE SEEDS.

STURTON'S SEEDS to arrive per Gleniffer. SPECIAL—THE REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

Hongkong, August 2, 1881. 2a2

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE Public are informed that the SCRIPT for SHARES numbered 5640 to 5643 in the HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO. has been STOLEN, and Application has been made for same to be Cancelled.

The Public are informed that the SCRIPT for SHARES No. 43, Nos. 297, 301, and Nos. 766 to 769 in the HONGKONG TOR CO. has been STOLEN, and Application has been made for same to be Cancelled.

Hongkong, August 15, 1881. 2a29

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE General Agents, with the Approval of the Company, have the pleasure to intimate that an INTERIM DIVIDEND of FIVE PER CENT. upon the Paid-up Capital of the Company, will be Payable on the 15th AUGUST NEXT, to all Shareholders on the Register at that date.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 1st to 15th Proximo, inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents.

Hongkong, July 20, 1881. 2a1

DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. EASTLAKE is now permanently in his new DENTAL ROOMS, Lower Floor of the HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS, Wyndham Street.

Hongkong, August 3, 1881. 2a3

DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. ROGERS has returned to Hongkong, and he will now remain here permanently.

Hongkong, July 21, 1881.

THE SAFEST AND ONLY RELIABLE PREPARATION OF PHOSPHORUS.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE.—Best known Remedy for Nervousness, Indigestion, Liver Complaints, and all Functional Derangements; extensively used in the Army and Navy, and highly recommended by the Medical Faculty.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE.—Only reliable Remedy for Weak and Shattered Constitutions, Nervous Debility, Depression, Lassitude, Pimples, Impure Blood, premature Decline, &c., thoroughly re-establishes general bodily health.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE.—Prepared on a new principle whereby all possible risk is entirely prevented. Avoid Phosphorus Pills, Lozenges, &c., as they frequently contain Solid Particles of Phosphorus, which accumulate in the system, producing Necrosis and other serious evils.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE.—Being prepared from the purest Materials they are absolutely unobtainable and in some cases positively dangerous.

DR. BRIGHT'S PHOSPHODYNE.—Sold by all Chemists throughout the globe.

Refuse Useless substitutes.

Agents:—WATSON & Co., Hongkong Dispensary.

WATSON, CLAY & Co., Shanghai Dispensary.

21my81 6m 21no81

ENTERICON.

ENTERICON gives immediate Relief to Indigestion, Lowness of Spirits, Wind in the Stomach, Giddiness, Palpitation of the Heart, &c.

ENTERICON gives Speedy Relief and Permanent Cure in Nervous Debility, Spasmodic, Wasting Disease.

ENTERICON is the only Infallible Remedy for Liver Complaints, Feculent of Bile, Loss of Appetite, Want of Vitality, Mental Depression, &c.

ENTERICON is warranted not to contain in any form, Mercury, Opium, Ether, Arsenic, Strichnine, or any deleterious Drug whatever.

Sold by all Wholesale and Retail Drug-gists throughout the Civilized World.

Sold in China by—

WATSON & Co., Hongkong Dispensary.

WATSON, CLAY & Co., Shanghai.

21my81 6m 21no81

THE "FAR EAST."

THE JOURNAL OF 1878 WAITED.

Apply at the Office.

Hongkong, October 4, 1880.

Notices to Consignees.

SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Carnarvonshire*, PATRICK, Commander, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that the Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned at Wanchai, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless notice to the contrary be given before 3 p.m. To-day.

Consignees wishing to receive their Goods on the Wharf are at liberty to do so.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 22nd Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, August 15, 1881. 2a22

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

BRITISH SHIP "CLARA," FROM LONDON.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

VOGEL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, July 20, 1881.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "NAPLES," FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

VOGEL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, August 12, 1881.

SAILOR'S HOME.

ANY Cast-off CLOTHING, BOOKS, or PAPERS will be thankfully received at the Sailor's Home, West Point.

Hongkong, July 25, 1878.

Shipping.

Steamers.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.

The Steamship "Kwangchow," Captain, YOUNG, will be despatched for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 17th Inst., at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, August 15, 1881. 2a17

FOR MANILA (DIRECT).

The Spanish Steamer "Ensay," Captain BLANCO, will be despatched for the above Port on THURSDAY, the 18th Instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to REMEDIOS & Co.

Hongkong, August 15, 1881. 2a18

STEAM TO BOMBAY VIA STRAITS.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship "Adria," Captain, YOUNG, will leave for the above place on FRIDAY, the 19th Inst., at 4 p.m.

A. McIVER, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, August 11, 1881. 2a19

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Co.'s Steamship "Devotion," Captain, T. P. FRY, will be despatched on or about the 20th Instant.

tonnage 1561. She is a three-masted boat and is fitted with compound engines of 350 horse-power. It is expected that one or two more boats will shortly be added to the fleet already engaged on this line.

The P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*, Captain Symonds, reports that on Sunday, the 14th inst., while off Hainan Island—lat. 22.00 N., long. 122.30 E.—she passed the barque *Onora*, close-hauled under foresail, fore-staysail out to stimp of bowsprit (both bowsprit and jibboom being gone), mastsail mizen-staysail, mizen topmast staysail, and driver set. Her fore and main topmasts were close down to the caps. The vessel was steering to the North. The weather was fine with smooth sea. She made no signals to the *Zambesi*, which seems rather strange. On the following day the French mail steamer, bound northward, was passed off Quemoi. Captain Symonds reports very heavy weather at Shanghai, the wind blowing in furious gusts. The *N. C. Daily News* of 13th has the following:—

The last two tides in the Whangpo were exceptionally high, and some of the low-lying parts of the Settlement were flooded. One or two cases of damage to cargo in native boats is also reported. During yesterday morning's tide North Soochow Road was under water, as were also some parts of Hongkong, and when the tide in the afternoon was at its highest the pontoons are described as being almost on a level with the Bund. The cases of damage reported are the upsetting of two native cargo boats, one containing cotton and the other indigo. Little or no damage, we are glad to say, was done to the Public Garden.

In the *Gazette's* return of public works for the month ended 31st July 1881, two peculiar items may be noticed. One has reference to the rebuilding of the Bowington Bridge, the original order for the commencement of which work was given on 1st September 1880; but which was only begun in January of the present year. This work is reported as "in progress," but the remarkable thing about the matter is that not a cent has as yet been expended. This peculiarity also applies to the Harbour of Refuge at Causeway Bay, which is put down as having been commenced on the 28th of June. There must be some remarkably cheap labour around somewhere.

By the kindness of Captain Wynn, of the *Nigata Maru*, we have been furnished with particulars of the typhoon experienced by that vessel on the voyage from Kobe to Hongkong. The *Nigata Maru* left Kobe on the 9th of August, and had fine weather up to the evening of the 11th, when it began to assume a threatening appearance. At 1 a.m. on Friday the wind increased, and the foretop sail was taken in. During the next few hours the gale gradually grew more violent, a high irregular sea running, in which the ship laboured heavily. By 10 a.m. a hurricane was blowing, the engines had to be slowed down, and the ship's head put up to the sea. It continued to blow with terrible violence for the next eleven hours, a thick rain, which obscured everything at a distance of half the ship's length, adding to the awfulness of the scene. The sea, which was fearfully high, swept the deck continually from every side, and had it not been for the ship's splendid qualities as a sea-boat, she must inevitably have gone to the bottom. During this period the boat was carried away, taking the davits, which were 2½ inches thick, and everything else connected with it. The foremast, which had been reefed before the gale had attained its utmost fury, was blown piece by piece out of its lashings. The bridge canvas was also blown away, and other damage done. Every room was washed out, and the Captain remarked that after the gale had moderated it reminded him strongly of rag-fair, to see everyone collecting the scattered remnants of clothing which had been left. Just as the glass had begun to rise a tremendous sea took her broadside, and knocked her almost on her beam ends; the cargo shifted; and when they endeavoured to get the ship cleared of water by means of the pumps, these, owing to the ashes from the fire and other matter getting into them, were choked up, and ultimately the fires were extinguished by the water. For some hours they lay at the mercy of the waves. At last steam was got up in the two weather boilers (the last ones still being under water), and at nine o'clock at night they succeeded in getting the vessel round on the other tack, which enabled her to partially recover from the list. Under these two boilers she ran until noon of the 13th, when the storm had subsided. During the height of the typhoon it was impossible for any one to move about the decks; the most anyone could do being to get under the lee of anything, and hang on with all his strength to prevent the wind or sea sweeping him away. The Chinese sailors and boys on board are to-day to offer up a sacrifice of five crackers, &c., to express their thankfulness for their delivery from imminent danger. Captain Wynn is of opinion that the typhoon expended in power any he had ever seen or heard of. We append the following readings of the barometer from 9 p.m. on Saturday till 6 p.m. on the Friday.

9 p.m. Sat. 29.64
8 " " 29.60
7 " " 29.55
6 " " 29.50
5 " " 29.45
4 " " 29.40
3 " " 29.35
2 " " 29.30
1 " " 29.25
0 " " 29.20
Wind steady N.E.
Ship steering to S.W.
at 3 p.m. then N.W. and N.E.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Strait Times*, writing from Kuala Lumpur (Selangor), under date of 4th August, says:—
"Many of your readers will have heard with sorrow and regret the sad news of the untimely death of Miss Douglas, daughter of H. B. M. Resident at Selangor. The deceased young lady had been ailing for the last three weeks, but no great anxiety was felt until the evening of Monday, the 1st instant, when dangerous symptoms set in, and death took place the following morning (Tuesday) at half past nine o'clock. The late Miss Douglas was greatly beloved throughout the State; her invincible kindness to those in sickness, and her willing help and charity to those in trouble, will long keep her memory green with the Europeans, as well as the native Chinese. The funeral took place on the same day at five p.m., and the body was followed to the grave by a procession of from 1000 to 1200 persons, comprising the European Officers, the Captain-China and the Chief Towns, and the Malay and Chinese traders. The deceased was shown for the Resident and his family by all classes in Selangor."

Police Intelligence.
(Before Frederick Stewart, Esq.)
Tuesday, August 16.
CHARGE OF CARRYING A SUBVERSIVE IN A PUBLIC PLACE.
Long Anson, coolie, appeared on remand from the 13th inst., charged with carrying a subversive in the house of Mr. J. A. Gutierrez, No. 5, Elgin Street, on the 12th inst.
Gutierrez, a Portuguese, revealed some circumstantial evidence, to the effect that defendant was not at the front door of his house when the coolie was there with his box; he entered the house by the back door. Beyond his entering the house, witness knew of no other circumstances created by defendant.

The following letter appears in the *Hogo News*, with reference to some observations made by that journal as to delay in the forwarding of the mails from Hongkong:—
Hongkong, July 19th, 1881.

To the Editor of the *Hogo News*.
Sir, Some one in your Settlement has sent me a copy of your issue of the 1st instant, containing a letter commenting on the route followed in forwarding the London Mail of May 13th from Hongkong to Kobe. Perhaps you will favour me by inserting a few words in reply.

That mail reached Hongkong on June 17th. This office could not possibly know beforehand that the *Nigata Maru* would be postponed, nor that the *Yagasaki Maru* would leave Yokohama three days late, as your correspondent's letter seems to imply. It is taking time to make a correct statement. There was no chance of catching the next steamer either at Shanghai or Yokohama.

Moreover, early in last year, representations had been received from Kobe begging that, as a general rule, the mail from Hongkong should be sent direct, and not via Yokohama. Therefore the rule adopted in this office was (and is) this—In case of doubt give the preference to the direct packet.

On the 18th of June, then, when the *Tanaka* was leaving, there were four routes to select from, and, as it then appeared, the mails sent by them would reach Kobe on the dates given below:—
Via Yokohama (F. pkt.).....July 1st
Direct (M. B. pkt.).....July 1st
Via Shanghai (F. pkt.).....July 4th
Via Nippon (F. & O. pkt.).....July 4th
The direct packet was therefore selected, for the reason already stated.

It is easy to be wise after the event, but a moment's reflection will assure anyone that it is often impossible to foretell which route will involve least trouble to this office. The direct packet was to be sent by the *Tanaka*, no matter what, and have done with it. We should then have continued complaints, whereas now we have them only sometimes. As it is, a consultation is invariably held with the practical officers of the Department, the decision is frequently reconsidered, and infrequently altered. A return is sent every week to the London Post Office, showing how the mail for each Japanese port was forwarded, and for what reasons the particular route was selected.

The last mail for Kobe, for instance, (at this moment waiting here for the *Nigata Maru*) might have arrived sooner at Kobe via Shanghai, but the chance of its just missing the upward steamer, and being detained a week at that port, was so great that after careful inquiry I abandoned the idea. I shall always be glad to hear from anyone at Kobe as to the practical result at the other end of the line. If, however, the Kobe community, or the Japanese Post Office, would appoint an agent here who would simply say, "It is this," and the mail by the so-and-so, it would be a great help to this office. We can then furnish a practical proof that nothing short of second sight can always ensure a successful result.

As to your own remarks, whether with reference to the present or the past, I will merely say that they are absolutely uncalled for.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
ALFRED LUSTRE,
Postmaster General, Hongkong.

The following items are from the *Strait Times* of the 8th August.
We learn from Manila that the Spanish steamer *Reina Mercedes* arrived at that port at 4 p.m. on the 27th July, making the run from Singapore in 4 days and 9 hours. The run from Barcelona to Manila, including all stoppages, was 28 days 4 hours. Two Chinese were arrested on Saturday on a search warrant issued by Mr. R. S. O'Connor, Senior Police Magistrate, charging them with evasion of the Stamp Ordinance by re-using stamps on documents. A quantity of promissory notes and documents were found, representing a large sum of money. Some of the stamps were found to be apparently re-used. Late on Saturday night the Inspector General of Police was served with a writ of *habeas corpus*, and took the prisoners to the Chief Justice's residence, where they were bound over to the Court of Sessions on Saturday. On the opening of the Court, the Inspector General of Police, the prisoners, the Commissioner of Stamps, and many others were present in Court. The prisoners were represented by Mr. Donaldson, their counsel. The case was adjourned until Thursday, the prisoners being released on the same amount of bail.

Complainant, recalled, stated that it was while going from the back to the front door that defendant made a noise; he called out "Ta!"
No further evidence being produced, the prisoner was discharged.

LARCENY FROM THE PERSON.
Ho Ahuk, 20, coolie, remanded from the 13th inst., was again before the Court on a charge of stealing a pair of gold earrings, worth \$24 from the person of a married woman named Loong Ai.
The latter gave further evidence to the effect that it was at the corner of Stanley and Pottinger Streets that the rings were taken. The moon was not shining at the time, but the street lamps were alight. Defendant was behind witness when he took the rings from her. She had not the least doubt that defendant was the man who snatched her earrings. The servant who was with complainant corroborated this evidence, and said that she saw his face distinctly and identified the prisoner as the man who stole the earrings from her mistress. He had on a brown jacket at the time, and witness did not see him throw it off.

Defendant again denied the charge, and said he had no jacket, and had no earrings in his possession when arrested, but was convicted and sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

LARCENY OF A BOX OF CLOTHING, &c.
Tang Akin, who was remanded on the 13th inst., on a charge of stealing a box with a number of articles of clothing, and an umbrella, in value altogether about \$50, the property of Lank Apang, on the 12th inst., was again brought before the Court.

Complainant was recalled, and stated that he had heard defendant's statement on the last occasion they were before the Court, to the effect that he was to collect debts and indemnify about moving his property. Defendant desired him to go to Singapore, but he declined.

Defendant was sentenced to be imprisoned for two months with hard labour.

PERMITS SERVANTS.
The case of Fong Akum and two other chair coolies in the employ of Mr. J. D. Hutcheson, merchant, who were remanded on the 9th inst., to see if they would obey the orders of their employer, was again called, and complainant stating that the coolies had since obeyed orders, the case was dismissed.

BEARER OF OPIUM ORDINANCE.
Chau Ahoo, 62, boatman, was charged by acting Police Sergeant Thomas Campbell, with being in possession of prepared opium, but not having a permit from the opium farmer, on the 15th instant. Defendant, who lived at No. 14 Hung Lane, denied having any opium on the person, but on a search being made by the Police Sergeant, on a search being made, two horn boxes, containing rather more than a tael of second quality opium was found in a chest on the top of the bed, besides two tins of opium drops. Two brass pans, a strainer and other utensils used in boiling opium were also found on the premises.

Defendant, who stated the opium was for his own use, was fined \$5, in default to be imprisoned for seven days.

FLYING CHAIRS AT UNAUTHORIZED PLACES.
Twelve chair coolies appeared on summonses charging them with unlawfully plying for hire at an unauthorized hour, namely 0.30 a.m. on the 13th instant, and also with carelessly carrying their chairs to the danger of persons passing by. Defendants were all discharged with a caution.

A SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER.
Lan Aik, unemployed, was charged with stealing from complainant's room clothing, worth \$2, on the 15th inst. Complainant, Chan Ahok, a boat builder, on returning to his home at Wong-kok-tui yesterday afternoon at about 3 o'clock, found defendant seated under a up-hole inside. The door was open and some clothing was lying about on the floor, a box which had been left locked also having been opened. Nothing had been taken away. Complainant called a watchman and gave prisoner in charge. Defendant was convicted of being a rogue and vagabond, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Manila.

(Translated from our Manila Exchanges.)

The Russian steamer *Nijni Novgorod*, which arrived in our port yesterday afternoon (2nd) from Vladivostok, East Siberia, although a merchant steamer, has the privilege of flying the same flag as used by the Russian Imperial Navy. A visit to the vessel will convince anyone that she is a war vessel disguised as a merchantman. Her officers and crew all belong to the Russian Imperial Navy, and she has 106 men on board. She has also on board, besides the officers, a surgeon, a pharmacist, and a chaplain. The reason of this is that she belongs to the volunteer fleet formed at the time when the war with China was imminent, and which fleet was spontaneously offered by the Russian merchants to the Imperial Government. The fleet remains in the same state, and with the same privileges, but is employed as owners dictate, and in this case the vessel came in a purely mercantile character. She has splendid first class accommodation, and has on board 15 passengers in transit. We believe she is the first Russian merchant steamer that ever visited our port.

In regard to a subscription opened to defray the expenses of providing the Manila Observatory with some necessary instruments, the sum of \$910 has been obtained and forwarded to the Director of the Observatory, who is to be disposed of in whatever way he may think best. The Director, in reply, signified his intention of sending for the following instruments: 1 anemometer, 2 barometers, one of which is nautical, and the remaining sum will be employed to repair some of the meteorological instruments which are in a somewhat deteriorated state.

The British Consulate is rendering good service to the public by announcing, through a code of flags, the arrival of the steamers from outports. It is not yet certain whether the improvement will consist in the increase of the number of tickets or in the number of drawings each month. We are inclined to think the latter is the course intended to be followed.

We understand that the steamer *Cebu* has already cost her owners some \$16,000, and this does not include the expenses of bringing the machinery from Hongkong to Manila.

The *Zonia*, from Iloilo to Boston, which arrived at St. Helen on the 10th June last, reports that from the 8th to the 10th of May, near the Agra Bay, she experienced a hurricane, during which the ship laboured heavily and became very leaky, and a large quantity of water was shipped. She hove to in order to allow the crew to work at the pumps, she lost several sails, and was making water at the rate of more than three inches per hour.

We learn that the steamer *Leon XIII* has sailed from Hongkong on the 15th inst. on an extraordinary voyage for Singapore and Manila. She has on board 700 French emigrants engaged by the Marquis of Rays for Port Breton. They will be landed at Singapore to be there transferred to another steamer which will leave for the Colony by *Southern Cross*, for New York; and the British barque *Beatrice*, for Falmouth, left Manila for their destination on the 6th August.

News has been received that the construction of the engines for the Waterworks is approaching completion. They are being constructed by a firm in Glasgow. The boilers for the same will arrive before the engines, and are expected shortly.

The time allowed for commencing the construction of the tramway in Manila has nearly expired. The person who represents the enterprise is already here.

The American barque *Great Surveyor* arrived at Manila from Hongkong on the 8th August.

The steamer *Emeralda* brought \$10,000 in silver on the 8th August from Amoy and Hongkong.

The British steamer *Taitland* left Manila for Liverpool on the 9th August.

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Opium. Those indeed who go so far as to exceed 3 or 4 mace per day may be considered as degenerating into heavy smokers, as the habit then commences to obtain a mastery over them which they rarely succeed in being able to overcome.

4.—One mace of prepared Opium will, as a rule, fill from 10 to 20 pipes, the number varying according to whether the individual be a heavy or a light smoker. To produce the desired effect, a heavy smoker will require a large pipeful, and will consequently be unable to fill more than 10 or 15 pipes from a mace of Opium, whereas a light smoker will economize his material to such an extent as to make the same quantity do duty for 20 or even 30 pipes. The number given in the return is 15; and may be regarded as a fair average.

5.—The retail price of prepared Opium per mace in Canton is at present from 3 candareens 9 cash to 5 candareens 4 cash for Foreign drug, and 3 candareens 9 cash for Native. Those who frequent smoking rooms, however, pay at a slightly higher rate than this, in consequence of their being supplied with the necessary utensils for indulgence, such as pipes, lamps, &c.; they are also obliged to hand over to the proprietors of the establishments the dross or ashes left from smoking, as payment of oil used.

6.—The total quantity of unprepared Foreign Opium imported into Canton last year, as taken from the *Annual Returns of Trade*, was Malwa 98,955 piculs, and Patna 67,155 piculs. The similarity in appearance, however, between Patna and Benares Opium is frequently productive of mistakes in distinguishing between the two kinds, and from the above quantity of 67,155 piculs, as much as 130 piculs may be deducted and regarded as Benares Opium. Further, the actual importation of the article into Canton cannot be considered as accurately represented by the foregoing figures; a much greater quantity is brought in by junks paying duty at the Native Customs House, and the steamers plying between Hongkong and Macao conveyed last year into the latter port nearly 7,000 chests. Much of this would be prepared in Macao and locally consumed or re-exported to various places, but a large amount would be transported into Chinese territory, findings way to Canton and places in the neighbourhood. According to the tables given in the *China Mail* of the 6th January 1879, the quantity of Opium retained in Hongkong for local consumption during 1878 was 19,700 piculs. If from this we deduct 5,000 piculs to represent, and very fairly too, the amount actually consumed in Hongkong and Macao, and re-exported to countries where the Chinese have settled, there will still remain the large quantity of 14,700 piculs, the ultimate destination of which can only be regarded as China *vis à vis* the seaports of Canton and Macao. As it has been perfectly impossible to find out how much of each kind of Foreign Opium is represented by the foregoing figures, there are 14,700 piculs of Opium to enter the total quantity in the return under one general heading. In the issue of the *China Mail* referred to above, no Malwa Opium at all is mentioned as having been "taken by local consumers" in Hongkong. Our *Annual Returns*, however, show that at least 98,955 piculs of Malwa Opium were sent to Canton, and although Malwa Opium meets with very little demand in our local markets, it may yet be safe to place its importation at 800 piculs, leaving the remaining 14,200 piculs to represent the quantity of Patna and Benares Opium. The quantity of Patna Opium imported into Canton during 1878 was probably nil. (Mr. Commissioner Breton, in his report on the trade of Canton for the year 1876, has treated exhaustively the subject of Opium importation in its relations to the revenue of the colony, and has given so far as I can ascertain, there is no Opium grown in this province. The possibility of ascertaining the quantity produced yearly in all China is very doubtful. The cultivation of the poppy being theoretically prohibited, no statistics exist from which reliable data can be obtained, and the various persons from whom I have sought information on the subject have either declined themselves utterly unable to afford any satisfactory answers, or have framed their replies to my inquiries in such a manner as to convince me that their communications were purely the result of guesswork. The accompanying figures, namely, 12,000 piculs, are simply intended to represent the average of the several quotations with which I have been furnished, some of these having gone as high as 19,000 piculs, and some as low as 5,000 piculs per annum, but, indeed, 50,000 piculs per annum would probably be much nearer the actual quantity.

8.—Although the amount of effort necessary to enable a smoker to give up the use of Opium depends considerably upon the period of time during which he has been addicted to the practice, still the quantity which he has consumed daily, and, consequently, the firmness with which the drug has established itself among the wants of his system, cannot fail to be of serious importance. The power, too, of putting forth the requisite effort will be in proportion to the derived physical constitution, and age of the individual. In all cases collateral assistance in the form of medicines can be resorted to, but this, as a rule, proves of slight aid when there is no natural strength of mind upon which to rely for the strenuous and continued exertion, without which the $\frac{1}{2}$ or craving cannot be overcome. The general opinion seems, however, to be that if a man smoke 8 mace of Opium per day, he will in any case at the end of 10 years find it very difficult, if not impossible, to give up the habit. And yet this statement must be advanced with some reservation, certain facts which I have elicited tending to show that even the number of years devoted to the practice, taken together with the quantity daily consumed, cannot be regarded as absolutely indicative of the difficulty encountered in throwing aside the habit. The propensity becomes sooner and more deeply rooted in some systems than in others, and it may in reality be said that once the liking for Opium becomes so strong as to impel a man to smoke regularly in quantities however small, there will necessarily be much self-denial required in order to discontinue the indulgence. A case has even occurred in which a man, after having smoked for only one year, consuming the moderate quantity of 5 mace per day, had been unable to give up the habit without considerable difficulty and the use of medicine. In illustration of this a table is enclosed, embodying particulars regarding 50 Opium-smokers who have at different periods become patients of the Medical Missionary Society's local hospital, with a view to being cured of the habit. The facts have been communicated by Dr. Kerr, of Canton, whose knowledge on the subject is the result of personal experience.

9.—After payment of import duty, crude Opium of Foreign origin is subject to the following taxes before it can become a legal article of trade:—

MALWA AND BENARES OPIUM.
Hk. Tls.
Likin per picul..... 0.4.8.1
T'chiao-hing per picul..... 14.8.1.5
Halfing per package of 5 mace..... 20.8.3.5
Hainan per package of 5 mace..... 27.0.3
Hk. Tls. 0.1.1.1, or per picul 27.0.3
Total..... Hk. Tls. 40.8.3.5

PATNA AND BENARES OPIUM.
Hk. Tls.
Likin per picul..... 12.9.6.0
T'chiao-hing per picul..... 20.6.3.0
Total..... 42.5.9.0

In addition to these recognized charges, there exist numerous petty levies exacted from the dealers by official underlings; and although these exactions may not be either legal or known to the authorities, yet their existence cannot be without a good deal of influence on the price and sale of the article.

It may be well to state, in conclusion, that the foregoing remarks are intended to bear upon the subject as viewed in connexion with Canton and its neighbourhood. The preparation of Opium may not be attended by the same results in other places, while the nature of the produce of effects more or less serious under different phases of climate.

Quotations.
Hongkong, August 16.
OPIMUM—New Patna, cash, 6424
" Old " cash, 635
" New Benares, cash, 642
" Old " cash, 635
" New Malwa, credit, 705
" Allowance, credit, 705
" Old Malwa, credit, 700
" Allowance, credit, 16

Exchange.
Bank, Wire, ... 3/8
" Demand, ... 3/8
" 30 days sight, ... 3/8
" 4 months' sight, ... 3/8
" Credit, ... 3/8
Documentary, 4 months' sight, 3/9
India, Wire, ... 223
" Demand, ... 223
Shanghai, demand, ... 72
" 30 days' sight, private, 72
Gold Seal, 1894 fine, ... 828.05
Sovereigns, ... 85.49

Shares.
Hongkong Bank, 106 1/2 prem. ex div.
Union Ins. Co. of Canton, \$1,075 p. share.
China Traders' Ins. Co., \$1,600 p. sh. ex div.
North China Ins. Co., \$1,125 p. share.
Yungtong & Assn. Co., \$100 p. share.
Chinese Ins. Co., \$305 p. share.
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$95 p. share.
China Fire Ins. Co., \$200 p. share.
H.K. & W. Dock, 48 p. prem. sales.
H. C. M. S. Boat Co., \$24 prem.
S'hai Steam Nav. Co., 3 p. prem. nominal.
China Coast Ste. Co., \$100 p. share.
Hongkong Gas Co., \$82 p. share.
Hongkong Hotel Co., \$110 p. share.
China Sugar Ref. Co., \$150 p. share ex div.
Do. " Debenburgs, 3 p. prem.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1874, nominal.
H. K. Ind. Co.'s shares, \$127 p. share.
Hongkong Bakery, \$43 p. share.

Temperature.
(Taken at Messrs. Palmer & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)
HONGKONG, August 16.
BAROMETER—9 A.M. 29.780
Do. 1 P.M. 29.762
Do. 4 P.M. 29.728
THERMOMETER—9 A.M. 82
Do. 1 P.M. 82
Do. 4 P.M. 80
Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. 80
Do. " " " 80
Do. " " 4 P.M. 78
Do. Maximum 82
Do. Minimum over night 80

Shipping Intelligence.
The following is corrected from the latest London and Colonial Papers, &c.—
VESSELS TO ARRIVE.
AT HONGKONG.

Left.	Name.	From.
Dec.	3, Laurens,	Hamburg
Jan.	17, Orswell,	Liverpool
April.	5, Chilli,	Cardiff
12, Landeer,	Cardiff	
18, Raven,	Cardiff	
20, Grant,	Cardiff	
22, John R. Worcester,	Cardiff	
29, G. F. Muntz,	Cardiff	

May.	6, Prudencia,	Cuxhaven
7, Hope,	New York	
10, Figeo,	Cardiff	
16, Gustav Oscar,	Cardiff	
28, Helen Marion,	Cuxhaven	
33, Sumatra,	London	
28, Sumatra,	Cardiff	
31, Helicon,	Cardiff	

June.	3, Belle Morris,	Cardiff
9, Lizzie C. Troop,	London	
13, M'Neer,	Penarth	
18, Grant,	Cardiff	
20, Adele (s.),	Cardiff	
21, Zenobia (s.),	Penarth	
22, Regulus,	Cardiff	
22, Red Cross,	Hamburg	
22, Emerald,	Cardiff	
22, Charter Oak,	New York	
22, Della,	Cardiff	
24, Leona,	Cardiff	
26, Castello (s.),	London	
28, Richard Parsons,	Cardiff	
30, Agnes Muir,	Hamburg	

July.	2, Valiant,	Cardiff
25, Loudoun Castle (s.),	London	

LOADING FOR CHINA AND JAPAN PORTS.
At London.—Steamers via Suez Canal.
Strathmore, Valencien.
Stanton, Glenora.

